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February 6, 1996

Mr. David Okita Solano County Water Agency 508 Elmira Road Vacaville, CA 95687

Dear Mr. Okita:

Thank you for your letter of December 7, 1995, comments on the CALFED Bay-Delta Program. You raised three issues; the issue of "take" of species post-habitat improvements; the importance of municipal water quality for the North Bay Aqueduct; and the need to integrate other important efforts, such as the drainage program for the San Joaquin Valley, into our program.

With regard to future "take" limits--the objective of the Program is to move toward a situation where species of concern throughout the Bay Delta system are moving toward recovery. Such progress will be beneficial for all users of the system. Until full recovery takes place however, the regulatory agencies will need to continue to enforce the requirements of the laws as they are required to do.

We have identified the need for good water quality for all users (agricultural, environmental, municipal and industrial) as a key element in our overall efforts to improve the Bay Delta system. One of our 14 program objectives is to "provide good water quality for municipal and industrial users". This important objective has been one of the foundations for all the draft alternatives under development.

We agree that many important efforts are underway throughout the watershed for the Bay Delta system that will have an influence on our program. We expect to work in a coordinated fashion with these programs to most efficiently achieve benefits to the Bay Delta system. Each of the alternative under development contain actions directed at improving water quality in the system. Most importantly with regard to your comments, one of our Solution Principles is that the program will not redirect significant impacts from one sector or one geographic area to another.

We appreciate your involvement in the CALFED Bay Delta program.

Sincerely,

Lester A. Snow

Executive Director